

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
AMBERLEY VILLAGE COUNCIL
MONDAY, MAY 9, 2011**

The Council of Amberley Village, Ohio met in a regular session at the Amberley Village Hall, 7149 Ridge Road on MONDAY, MAY 9, 2011, at 7:30 P.M. Mayor Merrie Stillpass called the meeting to order. The following roll call was taken:

<u>PRESENT:</u>	<u>ALSO PRESENT:</u>	<u>ABSENT:</u>
Jon Chaiken	Bernie Boraten, Village Manager	Leslie McIntosh
Fran Cohen	Kevin Frank, Village Solicitor	
Peg Conway	Chief Monahan, Police/Fire	
Ed Hattenbach	Nicole Browder, Clerk of Council	
Louis Katz	Rick Kay, Village Treasurer	
Merrie Stillpass		

Mayor Merrie Stillpass welcomed everyone to the regularly scheduled meeting of the Amberley Village Council, and led those in attendance through the pledge of allegiance.

MINUTES

Mayor Stillpass presented the minutes of the April 11, 2011, regular meeting and asked if there were any corrections or additions. There being none, Mayor Stillpass stated that the minutes stand approved as distributed.

FINANCE REPORT

Mr. Boraten presented the Finance Reports for the month of March and April (copy attached). There being no questions or comments, Mayor Stillpass announced that the finance reports would be filed as received.

CITIZEN TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

Mr. Al Lane, resident at 7200 Fair Oaks Drive, expressed his views on various topics (full text copy attached). He requested that a news release be prepared which announces to the voters which council members are running/not running and introduces the new candidates for upcoming November election.

Mr. Lane expressed his preference for resident participation in the selection process for the new village manager. He also stated that the current council should not select the new village manager since the upcoming November election could produce a new council. He stated that he felt this was necessary because the new council members have to be able to work with the new village manager.

Mr. Lane also stated that he felt that the current voting methods utilized in council elections are against the present U.S. Supreme Court laws. He stated that he felt that residents should not be permitted to vote for a candidate outside of their district. Mr. Lane requested that the Solicitor be directed to take this issue under advisement and produce an opinion related to such.

Mr. Lane commented that he would not ask the voters for a bond issue for the Amberley Green. He recommended that the Village undertake a mortgage at a rate of 4% on 33 acres, which would include the clubhouse. The remaining 100 acres would be paid off by utilizing village funds, which, in his opinion, would result in an annual payment of \$126,680.32 or \$12,119.61 monthly for 20 years. He also expressed his preference for Amberley to offer to rename the Amberley Green after a significant donor. The donation would have to be a minimum of \$2 million.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

STREETS, PUBLIC UTILITIES & SEWERS COMMITTEE

Mr. Chaiken reported that the committee met and reviewed storm water bids for various projects. Mr. Chaiken presented, read and moved to approve RESOLUTION NO. 2011-03, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE MANAGER TO AWARD A CONTRACT TO SITE WORX, LLC FOR THE 2011 VILLAGE STORMWATER IMPROVEMENTS. Seconded by Mr. Katz and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Chaiken presented, read and moved to approve RESOLUTION NO. 2011-04, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE MANAGER TO AWARD A CONTRACT TO JEFFREY ALLEN CORPORATION FOR 2011 VILLAGE CHANNEL IMPROVEMENTS. Seconded by Mr. Hattenbach and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Chaiken announced that the Greater Cincinnati Water Works has advised that they will complete water main replacement work on Willowbrook, Fair Oaks (N), Oakridge, and Meadowbrook. These projects will provide the Village the opportunity to purchase fire hydrant replacements at a 50% discount. Mr. Chaiken also requested that the roads budget be increased by \$70,000 for the re-paving of roadways as it relates to the aforementioned project. This recommendation has been approved by the roads and finance committees.

LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE (LRPC)

Mr. Chaiken reported that the committee submitted its report and recommendation to council last month regarding economic development related specifically to the Amberley Green and North Site properties. Mr. Chaiken moved that council adopt the Long Range Planning Committee's report as submitted. Seconded by Mrs. Conway and the motion carried with one abstention from Mr. Katz.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PARKS COMMITTEE

Mrs. Conway, on behalf of Ms. McIntosh, reported that the committee met and recommended to reduce the cost of mowing the Amberley Green property by declaring portions of the Amberley Green meadowlands. Such plan would require various section changes to the code. Mrs. Conway presented, read and moved to approve an ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 95.40, AND 150.79.4 OF THE VILLAGE CODE OF ORDINANCES PROVIDING EXCEPTION TO GRASS AND WEED CUTTING FOR DESIGNATION OF MEADOWLANDS.

Mr. Katz then inquired as to why there was not a definition for the term 'meadowlands' included in the ordinance. He stated that he felt the language was too broad and would

not discourage residents from making requests to council to declare sections of their properties meadowlands. After discussion among council, Mrs. Conway moved to table the ordinance pending further clarification as it relates to Mr. Katz' concern. Seconded by Mr. Katz and the motion carried unanimously.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE (ESC)

Mrs. Conway, on behalf of Ms. McIntosh, reported that all are invited to attend the Arbor Day in the Garden Party on June 12 from 12-3 p.m. The event will be geared toward volunteer appreciation rather than task-oriented work. Activities are designed for all ages.

There will also be a gym shoe and flip-flop collection for residents to recycle their old shoes. The rubber will be ground up and made into outdoor playground pads for parks in Cincinnati. No shoelaces please. Amberley resident Karla Bailey is spearheading this drive.

Another recycling event that will occur at the Garden Party is confidential paper shredding. The Shred Safe truck will be on-site from 10-12 p.m. to collect, shred and dispose of documents.

The Garden Party will also include the Arbor Day proclamation, Beautification Award nomination announcements, Heritage Tree Dedication, Amberley History Room tours, tree advice from Tree City academy graduates and refreshments.

The garden award nomination forms are available on the website and in the lobby at Village Hall. Please submit nominations by May 27th.

PUBLIC OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Mrs. Conway reported that the committee discussed the request to consider combining the ice cream social and the Arbor Day event. As it turns out, due to Tree City USA related rules, the Arbor Day event must be held earlier in the year.

Mrs. Conway stated that the committee did not recommend to reinstate the ice cream social into the budget. Amy Rubenstein has volunteered to work on sponsors and donations in order to have the event. It has also been suggested that the event be moved to July.

LAW COMMITTEE

Mr. Katz reported that the committee met and recommended adopting rules and regulations for public participation at village meetings. He explained that this ordinance captures what the council and its committees are already doing in order to conduct meetings. Mr. Katz read and moved to approve ORDINANCE NO. 2011-06, ORDINANCE ADOPTING RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR PARTICIPATION AT VILLAGE MEETINGS. Seconded by Conway and the roll call showed the following vote:

AYE: Stillpass, Chaiken, Cohen, Conway, Hattenbach, Katz (6)
NAY: (0)
ABSENT: McIntosh (1)

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Monahan reported that the fire department received, once again, a rating of 3 after its recent ISO inspection, which is a very good rating. Keeping such a high rating assists the Village in maintaining lower insurance costs.

Chief Monahan then congratulated Mr. Boraten on his retirement in the following speech:

"I have worked for Bernie Boraten for 34 years. Dennis Owens and I are the only employees currently working that were not hired by Bernie. Bernie has been responsible for hiring 47 police employees since his hire date of July 19, 1977 as well as many administrative, service department and part-time employees.

I vividly remember the day I met Bernie. It was July 1977. I was a 30-year old patrolman working the desk in the old building when Art Freidman brought Bernie into the police department and introduced Bernie as the new Village Manager. My initial thought was how somebody so young and so young-looking could handle the job as Village Manager.

Well, after 34 years as Village Manager, my answer to that question is "extremely well". Bernie, in my opinion, you have been an outstanding Village Manager. I have enjoyed working side-by-side with you for the past 18 years as Chief. You have been extremely dedicated to the Village and have saved the Village thousands of dollars over the years with the many projects that were accomplished through grants and with your continuing tightening of the budget. Your managing skills have consistently enabled the Village to come in annually under budget.

In the course of our 34 years of working together, we have developed a deep respect for each other. We did not always agree on everything, but we were always able to work together.

Bernie, you are a true professional and I want to thank you for your service to Amberley Village and I want to thank you for working together with me to make the total operation of the Village successful."

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Stillpass reported that Pleasant Ridge Montessori School will be featured on the show Desperate Landscapes on the Do-It-Yourself channel on June 6 and 8 at 10 p.m. Two local Amberley residents participated in the makeover.

Mayor Stillpass announced that Chief Monahan submitted his letter of retirement to the Village on April 19th with his last day with the police/fire department being July 16, 2011. She stated that he has served with the Village for 37 ½ years.

Mayor Stillpass reported that on April 21st, the Village Manager received a letter from the Finance Administrator, Margie Crowley, which advised that after 19 years she will be retiring effective June 17. Mayor Stillpass then thanked them for their service to the Village.

Mayor Stillpass then reported that council has met with and interviewed search candidates and firm to assist the Village with the recruitment and hiring of the new village manager. Those interviewed were specialized in municipal government job placement. Interviews were conducted with Gerald Newfarmer from Management Partners Incorporated, Jim Mercer from the Mercer Group, David Krings from Slavin Management Consultants, and Don Vermillion. Mayor Stillpass read and moved to approve RESOLUTION NO. 2011-05, RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH DAVID KRINGS AND/OR SLAVIN MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS TO ASSIST WITH THE SEARCH AND RECRUITMENT OF A VILLAGE MANAGER. Seconded by Mr. Chaiken and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Stillpass then invited Mr. Boraten to the podium whereby she proceeded to present to him letters and certificates of recognition for his retirement and service to the Village, which were received from past mayors, local and state officials. Past Mayor Bob Stewart was present and invited to the podium to present his letter of appreciation to Mr. Boraten for his service to the Village. Caitlyn Graham, on behalf of Steve Chabot, read and presented a certificate and letter of appreciation for Mr. Boraten's service to the Village.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Boraten acknowledged and thanked everyone for their congratulatory comments and then went on to share various memorable moments of his career as well as thanking those that he has worked with over the years.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

Mayor Stillpass stated that there being no other business the meeting was adjourned.

Nicole Browder, Clerk of Council

Mayor Merrie Stillpass